

CLAIMS

1. Device to eliminate extraneous air, which was introduced by open containers (3), from a clean room (1) which is filled with clean gas and encloses container processing machines (14, 20; 24), said clean room being constantly
5 supplied with clean gas to compensate gas losses,

characterized in that

a discharge cell (9) is mounted in the clean room (1) and communicates by an exhaust conduit (12, 17), which runs out of the clean room (1) with the ambience and by an aperture (11) with the clean room (1), mutually oppositely blowing slit nozzles
10 (A, B) being situated at the edge of the aperture (11) and blowing clean gas at each other in the plane of the aperture (11), the discharge cell (9) being configured in such manner that, at least at the filling site of the containers (3), it shall at least enclose the mouth zones of the containers.

15 2. Device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the discharge cell (9) encloses at least the upper zone of the container (3).

3. Device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the discharge cell (9) is bell-shaped and comprises a circular aperture (11) (Fig. 2).

20 4. Device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the discharge cell (9) is elongated and tunnel-like (Fig. 3) and comprises a slot-shaped aperture (11).

5. Device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the discharge cell conduit is a slot (17).

6. Device as claimed in claim 4 to process containers (3) revolving at the
5 periphery of a rotary machine (7, 14, 20; 26),

characterized in that

the tunnel (9) is split longitudinally, one of its parts (10a1, 10b1; 28a, 28b) revolving jointly with the machine (14), its other part (10a2, 10b2; 29a, 29b) being connected to the stationary housing (2) of the clean room (1).

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7. Device as claimed in claim 6 for neck-flange bottles (3') held by neck supports (41),

characterized in that

the neck supports (41) are mounted on the revolving part (10b1; 28b) of the

15 discharge cell (9).